Health News Release

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State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency Web site. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the <u>Department of Health home page</u> (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Benton County

In June 2009 the Licensed Social Worker and Licensed Mental Health Counselor Programs released **Sara M. Ellingson** (LW00004036, LH00004395) from terms and conditions set against her licenses.

Clark County

In July 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged **Jennifer M. Earl** (NA00164677) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly forged several checks for her own gain. She entered into a diversion program after being charged with four counts of forgery and one count of identity theft.

In June 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program modified the agreed order against **Kaitlyn Brooke Smeback** (NA60066796). She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

Clallam County

In June 2009 the Nursing Commission released registered nurse and advanced registered nurse practitioner **Deborah Stokke** (RN00051571, AP30001238) from terms and conditions set against her licenses.

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Cowlitz County

In July 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of **Shannon D. Hicks** (NA60084448) and placed her registration on probation for two years. She was convicted of theft and must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

Grant County

In June 2009 the Health Care Assistant Program granted the application of **Dalia Alvarado** (HC60057295) and placed her license on probation for one year. She was convicted of malicious mischief. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In June 2009 the Nursing Commission reinstated the license of registered nurse **Patricia A. Reiber** (RN00126372) and placed her license on probation. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

King County

In June 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program denied the application of **Felegehiulot H. Abera** (NA60047095). While working as a caregiver at an adult family home, Abera yelled at a resident and pulled the resident into another room so she could watch television. She failed to respond to the department about the incident.

In June 2009 the Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery charged **Ann B. McCombs** (OP00001238) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly hired an unlicensed individual to draw blood, inject patients, and perform intravenous therapies. She also advertised that she's board certified in pain management when she isn't certified.

Pierce County

In July 2009 the Registered Counselor and Chemical Dependency Professional Programs amended the statement of charges against **James Lawrence Johnson** (CP00004684, RC00037638). He was convicted of assault with sexual motivation — domestic violence.

In June 2009 the Registered Counselor Program granted the application of **Brandi Delynn Holmes** (RC60089822) and placed her registration on probation for two years. She was convicted of unlawful possession of a controlled substance, and unlawful possession of a controlled substance — methamphetamine on more than one occasion. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

In June 2009 the Nursing Commission released licensed practical nurse **Denise Martin** (LP00046339) from terms and conditions set against her license.

In July 2009 the Registered Counselor Program released **Valerie** (**Morford**) **Schell** (RC00049814) from terms and conditions set against her registration.

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In June 2009 the Emergency Medical Technician Program granted the application of **Charles A. Siler** (ES60018800) and placed his license on probation for two years. He failed to disclose juvenile convictions on his application. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

In July 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Michael S. Walker** (NC10083089) with unprofessional conduct. He was convicted of two counts of harassment and allegedly failed to respond to department inquiries about the conviction.

Skagit County

In June 2009 the Nursing Commission placed the license of licensed practical nurse **Clarissa Fortner** (LP00053082) on probation for 18 months. She failed to administer medications to patients, and failed to adequately document and assess a patient. She also failed to notify the family or physician of a change in a patient's condition when the patient suffered from acute aspiration, and was admitted to the hospital. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

Snohomish County

In June 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program denied the application of **Bridget A. Jones** (NA00186649). She failed to follow a patient's nursing care plan resulting in patient harm and failed to respond to department inquiries about the incident.

In June 2009 the Nursing Commission placed the license of registered nurse **Deanna R. Scholl** (RN00070969) on probation for five years. She provided inadequate care plans for a patient while working as a telephone consulting nurse. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

Spokane County

In July 2009 the Emergency Medical Services Programs vacated the denial and granted the application of emergency medical technician **Raymond W. Hamilton** (ES00124034). He was convicted of driving under the influence on more than one occasion. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

In June 2009 the Nursing Commission reinstated the license of registered nurse **Kathleen A. McClarry** (RN00114386) and placed her license on probation. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In June 2009 the Registered Counselor Program granted the application of **Pamela Jo Moon** (RC60083497) and placed her registration on probation for two years. She was convicted of making a false statement to a public servant, theft on more than one occasion, and delivery of a controlled substance — methamphetamine. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

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Walla Walla County

In July 2009 the Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and Mental Health Counselor Programs charged **Dorothy Doebler** (LH00003720, LF00001213) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly poisoned a dog, was charged with animal cruelty, and entered into deferred prosecution on the charges.

Whatcom County

In July 2009 the Registered Counselor Program granted the application of **Kevin P Maier** (RC60090255) and placed his registration on probation for three years. He was convicted of attempted burglary, theft of cable services, forgery, malicious mischief, vehicle prowling, and theft. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his registration.

Yakima County

In July 2009 the Registered Counselor Program charged **Frances Salinas Gonzalez** (RC00024442) with unprofessional conduct. She was convicted of solicitation to obtain a controlled substance—Vicodin, by fraud.

Out of State

Nevada: In July 2009 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Victoria N. Secreriat** (RN00087678) with unprofessional conduct. Her license to practice as a licensed practical nurse in Nevada was placed on probation.

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health Web site at http://www.doh.wa.gov for a healthy dose of information.